

# Kanza SPIRIT

Air Force Reserve's first Associate KC-135 Unit

## January 2000

McConnell loses one  
of its own  
Page 4

Wanna keep your  
New Year's resolutions?  
Find out how!  
Page 8



Senior Airman Jason Whited

## 'All I want for Christmas is...'

Chief Master Sgt. Billy Meade, 931st Air Refueling Group command chief master sergeant, fills in for Santa Claus at the group Christmas Party Dec. 5 in the Emerald Ballroom. Meade listened patiently and took requests from dozens of McConnell kids. As of press time, the Spirit staff could not confirm rumors that Meade was trading in his truck for a brand new sleigh. Read the full story on Pages 6, 7.

## Troops score biggest pay raise in 18 years

### Compiled from wire reports

The fiscal 2000 National Defense Authorization Act has been approved by Congress and will become law once signed by the President.

The NDAA includes provisions for the most comprehensive compensation package of pay and benefits for service members in 50 years.

According to Pentagon

reports, DOD and Air Force senior leaders felt compensation needed a comprehensive fix.

The resulting change includes the highest pay raise military members have seen in the last 18 years and a one-time reform of the Department of Defense military pay table.

**Editor's Note:** Check out the new pay chart for reservists as well as more pay information on Page 3.

## DOD halts some anthrax shots until new plant 'passes muster'

### By Douglas Gillert

*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON -- Failure of a new anthrax vaccine production plant to pass a Food and Drug Administration inspection has led DOD to postpone the second phase of vaccinations for at least six months.

Defense officials announced Dec. 13 the Pentagon will delay inoculating troops other than those deployed to Korea and the Persian Gulf until new batches of the vaccine are proven safe and effective.

Dr. Sue Bailey, assistant secretary of defense for Health Affairs, said there are enough FDA-certified dosages to continue vaccinating troops headed to those high-threat areas.

Since the first phase of inoculations began last year, 383,000 soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines have received anthrax shots. The second phase will cover first responders to military contingencies or those ready to deploy, Bailey said. The third and final phase will inoculate the remainder of the force.



# From the commander...

By Col. Daniel Opp

931st ARG Commander

I would like to start this article by wishing each of you a Happy New Year and hope that you had or are having a great holiday season. We celebrated the holiday season with our Christmas party on the December UTA, and the turnout was fantastic. I want to thank each of you who came and especially those who brought their families. It was a great party, so if you see your units' Christmas party planning members, give them a pat on the back for the outstanding job they did. If you don't know who they are, find out and recognize them -- they did it for the rest of us. My personal thanks go to each of them.

## AEF update

AEF you say? It's upon us as you read this, and we have members deployed in AEF No. 3. We are rotating our flyers and maintainers through our three-month commitment just about every two weeks. Some of these people have volunteered to stay even longer than the two weeks we asked for. This is just another great example of 931st folks

stepping up to cover our commitments. You do it so well! Some of you may ask why we are involved in doing the AEF rotations at all, so I will try and explain it. In trying to keep deployments down to no more than 90 days for the active duty folks, the leadership decided to implement 10 AEFs. Each AEF would be on the hook to deploy for one 90 day period every 15 months. So while AEF No. 1 is in its window, AEF No. 2 is on call if a greater response is needed. The Air Reserve Component is providing approximately 10 percent of this capability spread out over all 10 AEFs. We are not doing 90 day periods, instead electing to rotate our people every 15 days (not including travel time). This can be substituted for your annual tour if you desire. The whole concept is to give people something they can plan on and stabilize our deployments. I will try and give a more in-depth briefing on this during the January commander's call.

## Anthrax

The latest word on anthrax for Phase II (which we are) is that it will be no sooner than June or July. This is due to the vaccine



Col. Daniel Opp

being inspected and held by the FDA prior to being released for use. I'll keep you updated as I get word.

## Congratulations!

You keep hearing me talk about both the great job the 931st does and our people. That's because it's true, and here is just the latest proof of it. As you know, we were awarded the Raincross Trophy in November. This month, we were recognized again.

It is my distinct pleasure to inform you that the 931st Air Refueling Group was awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for our performance from Nov. 1 1997 to Oct. 31 1999. Congratulations! You earned it.

# Shot in arm small price to pay

By Lt. Gen. Hal Hornburg

Commander, Ninth Air Force  
and U.S. Central Command  
Air Forces

Recent news stories have questioned the effectiveness of an important Department of Defense initiative to vaccinate all military people against anthrax.

The issue of protecting our people before and during battle is paramount. The list of countries that possess biological

weapons includes some that can be damaging to our national interests, such as North Korea, Iraq, Iran, Libya and Sudan. Russia, too, may still have anthrax weaponized.

There is an increasing threat of the use of anthrax as a weapon. It's not a matter of if, but when, anthrax will be used as a weapon.

Some have criticized us for having a misplaced reliance on the vaccine as our only safeguard. This view is distorted,

at best. The vaccine provides us with solid protection, but we also depend upon detection, the use of our protective masks if there's potential exposure, and further prophylaxis with antibiotics following exposure. With this combined approach, we have solid protection against this threat.

Don't listen to rumors; do your own research. When you do, I believe you will find that the threat is real and the vaccine is both effective and safe.



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**Commander,  
931st Air Refueling  
Group**

Col. Daniel Opp

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All photos are Air Force photos unless otherwise indicated.



## 2000 Reserve Pay for Four Drills

		<2	2	3	4	6	8	Years of Service			16	18	20	22	24	26
								10	12	14						
	O-10	1095.32	1133.84	1133.84	1133.84	1133.84	1177.36	1177.36	1242.60	1242.60	1331.52	1331.52	1420.68	1420.68	1420.68	1509.12
	O-9	970.76	996.20	1017.40	1017.40	1017.40	1043.28	1043.28	1086.68	1086.68	1177.36	1177.36	1242.60	1242.60	1242.60	1331.52
	O-8	879.24	905.64	927.08	927.08	927.08	996.20	996.20	1043.28	1043.28	1086.68	1133.84	1177.36	1206.40	1206.40	1206.40
	O-7	730.60	780.24	780.24	780.24	815.28	815.28	862.52	862.52	905.64	996.20	1064.72	1064.72	1064.72	1064.72	1064.72
	O-6	541.48	594.88	633.92	633.92	633.92	633.92	633.92	633.92	655.48	759.08	797.84	815.28	862.52	891.64	935.40
	O-5	433.12	508.52	543.72	543.72	543.72	543.72	560.04	590.28	629.84	677.00	715.76	737.48	763.28	763.28	763.28
	O-4	365.04	444.52	474.16	474.16	482.96	504.24	538.72	569.00	594.88	621.08	638.12	638.12	638.12	638.12	638.12
	O-3	339.20	379.24	405.48	448.64	470.12	486.96	513.36	538.72	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88	551.88
	O-2	295.84	323.08	388.12	401.20	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48	409.48
	O-1	256.84	267.32	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08	323.08
Pay Grade	O-3E	0.00	0.00	0.00	448.64	470.12	486.96	513.36	538.72	560.04	560.04	560.04	560.04	560.04	560.04	560.04
	O-2E	0.00	0.00	0.00	401.20	409.48	422.48	444.52	461.52	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16	474.16
	O-1E	0.00	0.00	0.00	323.08	345.12	357.84	370.84	383.68	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20	401.20
	E-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	402.04	411.12	420.36	430.08	439.76	448.20	471.72	490.08	517.68
	E-8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	337.12	346.88	355.96	365.20	374.88	383.40	392.84	415.92	434.40	462.28
	E-7	235.44	254.16	263.48	272.76	282.08	291.04	300.36	309.76	323.72	332.92	342.16	346.60	369.92	388.32	415.92
	E-6	202.52	220.76	229.92	239.68	248.72	257.68	267.12	280.88	289.72	299.04	303.60	303.60	303.60	303.60	303.60
	E-5	177.68	193.40	202.80	211.64	225.56	234.80	244.00	253.08	257.68	257.68	257.68	257.68	257.68	257.68	257.68
	E-4	165.72	175.04	185.36	199.64	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56	207.56
	E-3	156.20	164.76	171.28	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12	178.12
	E-2	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32	150.32
	E-1>4	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08	134.08
	E-1<4	124.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Effective Jan. 1. This chart reflects an increase of 4.8 percent over 1999 pay levels. Normally, reservists receive credit for four drill pay periods during one weekend unit training assembly. The drill pay rates will increase again on July 1 when targeted raises of up to 8.5 percent take effect.

# Officials offer much needed pay reform

Courtesy of Air Force Reserve News Service

As part of their effort to bring military compensation more in line with the civilian sector, Defense officials have come up with a package including a pay raise and a reform of the pay table.

Here's the breakdown:

## Pay raise

All military members will receive a 4.8 percent across-the-board pay raise Jan. 1. This is a step toward closing the overall 13.5 percent pay gap when military wages are compared with salaries across America.

Officials said they needed both a change in the current law where military pay raises would no longer be computed at 0.5 percent less than salary raises in the private sector, and an immediate pay raise above the

national index. The 2000 NDAA provides for base pay raises over the next six years at 0.5 percent more than national salary increases.

## Pay Table Reform

Involves a one-time correction to the Department of Defense pay table to correct longtime deficiencies. These changes are the result of years of comprehensive analysis of the current table, essentially unchanged since 1949.

The 7th and 8th Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation in the mid-1990s addressed the pay table and recommended reform to:

- relieve compression between grades by restoring significance to every promotion relative to longevity pay increases.

- shift the balance in emphasis toward promotion while retaining meaningful and

consistent longevity raises and eliminate inconsistencies in the pay table.

There are some differences in percent increases for officers and enlisted. Here's why:

- The current pay table has the Air Force enlisted pay at a nearly equal split with 54 percent of raises at promotion and 46 percent for longevity. Under reform, enlisted raises will be 57 percent for promotion and 43 percent for longevity.

- Officer pay, on the other hand, is weighted much more for longevity; currently, officers receive 43 percent of their raises for promotion and 57 percent for longevity. Under reform and OSD objectives, 51 percent will be for promotion and 49 percent for longevity.

For more information, contact the 931st Financial Management Fligh at 759-4633.

## Dishin' out dollars

- Every military member gets a minimum raise of 4.8 percent on Jan. 1 -- the largest raise in 18 years, and most members will receive another raise with PTR

- Eighty-two percent of the enlisted force and 57 percent of the officer force will receive additional pay increases with pay table reform July 1

- The average enlisted member will receive a 6.21 percent pay increase (4.8 percent in January plus PTR)

- The average officer will receive a 6.17 percent pay increase (4.8 percent in January plus PTR) able that will be used by all the Services



# McConnell remembers fallen officer

By Col. Fred Roggero  
22nd ARW Commander

December was a sad month for our Team McConnell family.

The loss of an outstanding leader and friend is difficult for any organization -- but particularly difficult when the loss is of the magnitude of Maj. Randall Patterson. Randy was succeeding in life and succeeding in the Air Force before a premature and tragic end. We will be worse off for not having the opportunity for this outstanding patriot to continue as our friend and part of our team.

However, the memory of Randy will live in the things that he accomplished and in the terrific manner he affected those

around him.

Patterson positively touched the lives of so many people, both on base and in the local community, that good things will continue to happen because of him. As those who knew Randy would state, he set an outstanding example for all of us to follow and challenged each of us to reach the standards he set for himself.

He will be missed sorely. But we should all take pride in being members of a team that



**Maj. Randy Patterson died Dec. 4 when his car skidded off the Interstate and crashed in a drainage canal.**

reverses the spirit of patriots like Patterson, and carry on in their memory.

In that light, I would like to thank those who volunteered and participated in the search teams during a difficult time, particularly the members of our Republic of Singapore detachment who

sacrificed numerous hours to search for our missing officer.

I would also like to thank those from McConnell who are selflessly reaching out to the Patterson family in their time of

uncertainty and grief with meals, prayers, support, and comfort.

The Air Force Family is very close knit, and this type of tragedy strikes particularly hard during the holiday season. But we are fortunate to have several agencies on base that can help people come to terms with the grief they may experience, and I encourage you to use those agencies if you need assistance..

Please remember Randy for what he was: a warrior, an outstanding officer and a giving husband, father and devoted son.

Let us be thankful that we were given time to share in his life, and live and work to reach those high standards he set, because to the end he honorably served his God, his country and his family.

## Flying high: Kansas leaders of tomorrow get up close look at Air Force Reserve mission

By Senior Airman  
Jason Whited  
Kanza Spirit Editor

More than 20 future Kansas leaders took to the skies Dec. 11 as 931st Air Refueling Group aircrews gave them an up close look at the Air Force mission.

The attendees came to McConnell as part of Leadership Wichita, a Chamber of Commerce program designed to familiarize future Kansas civic leaders with different aspects of their community.

Participants took part in a four-hour refueling mission, observing 931st ARG crews in action -- many even crawled into the boom pod and took a turn at the controls.

Most participants had never been so close to so much military hardware -- and their excitement was obvious.

"This is awesome!" shouted

participant Erick Witherspoon, a local assistant principal, as he climbed, smiling from ear to ear, out of the boom pod. "It is so cool!" he yelled.

Witherspoon wasn't the only one pleased to be taking part in the missions. As soon as 931st ARG boom operators went to work refuelling AWACS jets, attendees lined up with cameras in hand to catch a glimpse of the action and capture the moment.

Alberto Niebla, a case worker for Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Sedgwick County, almost ran himself ragged as he shuttled repeatedly between the boom pod and the cockpit. Like a kid in a candy store, Niebla tried to take everything in at once. From talking to crew members about their equipment to making sure he checked out every corner of the jet. "Wow" was all he could say.

Such orientation flights have



Senior Airman Jason Whited Leadership Wichita participant Karen Prater tries her hand at the boom controls of the KC-135 as Chief Master Sgt. Donald Askren, 931st Air Refueling Group chief boom, looks on.

long been a staple of the Air Force community relations program.

Each year, thousands of civilian leaders are flown in all types of Air Force planes. Officials hope that allowing civilian leaders to see their "tax dollars at work" will give them a clearer idea of what airmen do -- and will cause civilians to be more supportive of the Air Force and the military in general.

### Whirlwind tours

Each year, more than 125 civilian leaders fly with the 931st Air Refueling Group.

The purpose of these "orientation flights" is to give America's future leaders a better idea of what the Air Force does to protect our freedom.



# 931st says farewell to old friend

Unit's first chaplain heads north to new assignment

By Senior Airman  
Jason Whited

*Kanza Spirit Editor*

The December UTA was the last for Maj. Charles Peters as the 931st Air Refueling Group chaplain.

Peters -- one of the first members assigned to the unit when it was reactivated in 1995 and sent to McConnell -- leaves the unit to take a job as head chaplain for the 934th Airlift Wing, Minneapolis, Minn.

During his time here, Peters touched scores of lives, helping those in need any way he could and often working behind the scenes to ensure those in need had somewhere to turn.

Before he left, we sat down with Peters to see if he had any "words of wisdom" for all the friends he leaves behind.

**Are you sad to be leaving?**

Oh, sure. There are great people here and wonderful support -- better support here than anywhere else.

**What will you miss most about the 931st?**

The people.

**What's the best thing about serving as a chaplain?**



**Maj. Charles Peters**

Just hearing someone say "thanks."

**What's the toughest thing about being a chaplain?**

Not being able to meet a need.

**Any parting words for unit members?**

Maintain your family atmosphere and joyous spirit -- and remember God is always there for you.

# Your recycling efforts pay off

By Tech. Sgt.  
Randolph Brown

*931st ARG Historian*

You're new to the unit and you're searching for a trash can to throw something away. You spot a gray bin with a strange looking contraption on top. At first, you think it is just a handle and try to open it. Then, you notice a small slot at one end and try to shove your trash through it. Finally, you notice step-by-step instructions on how to recycle your aluminum cans.

Yes, these receptacles are intended for the recycling of aluminum. You may also have noticed a green trailer in the parking lot of the headquarters building. That is intended for depositing aluminum cans and foil. Please recycle other material in the appropriate receptacles in the brown trailer parked next to the green one. These trailers are intended for recyclable material only.

The fruits of your labor allowed Maj. Steve Kett, 931st recycling officer, to deposit \$57 into the group fund.

That amount was the result of recycling only half of what the green trailer can hold. So please continue to support the 931st ARG recycling programs.

The effort not only allows the unit to offer lower prices for events such as the dining out, dining in, but family events such as the picnic and Christmas gatherings.

The fund also provides for unit coins, T-shirts, hats and awards.

Again, thank you for your support.

Suggestions and comments can be referred to Kett at Ext. 3369, or me at Ext. 3865.

# Reserve goes to Web in search of recruits

By Pamela Nault

*Air Force Reserve Command  
Public Affairs*

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. -- A campaign that mixes traditional broadcast, print and billboard advertising with World Wide Web technology is netting Air Force Reserve Command recruiters thousands of potential recruits.

Reserve recruiters, working with TMP Worldwide, whose specialty is recruitment advertising, developed an advertising campaign of posters and billboards, radio and television public service announcements, and some paid advertisements. But central to their campaign was developing and launching a first-rate commercial web site -- <http://www.afreserve.com>.

While traditional advertising remains a reliable foundation for public awareness of Reserve recruiting needs and military service benefits, the Web is the future for targeting a broader audience in search of job

opportunities, say recruiters.

"Every indication points to the Web as the medium of choice for job referrals," said Chief Master Sgt. Eric Snipes, chief of the advertising branch for the Directorate of Recruiting at Headquarters AFRC. "We're

## Spread the word!

Know someone who might be interested in joining the Air Force Reserve?

Tell them to go online to: [www.afreserve.com](http://www.afreserve.com) or have them contact Master Sgt. David McCormick at 759-4350.

averaging 1,500 inquiries per month through our web site."

The command's 300-plus production recruiters operate in overdrive to respond to every potential applicant to determine their eligibility and qualifications.

"This is not a bad problem to have," said Snipes. "It confirms

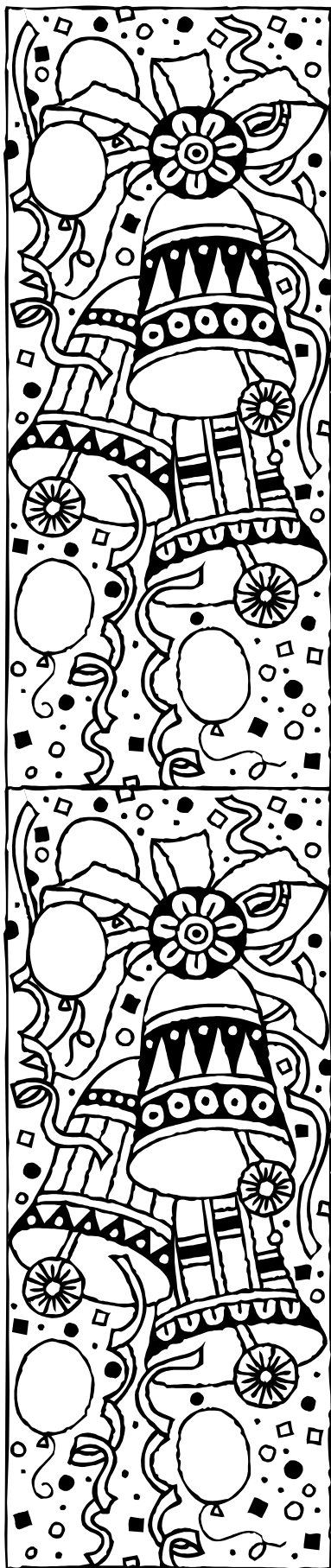
we're headed in the right direction in our efforts to sign-up 12,000 qualified citizen airmen in fiscal 2000."

For years, the Reserve relied heavily on people leaving active duty to meet its end strength requirements. But fewer people are leaving active duty so recruiters must target those who have no military experience.

The campaign focused on the Reserve's key selling points: career advancement, training, benefits, patriotism and high technology.

"Simply put, we're looking for men and women who want part-time military experience while attending college or pursuing a civilian career," explained Snipes.

"Our objective," said Snipes, "was to deliver a clear and concise message that promotes the Reserve's role in the nation's defense -- while increasing accessions to meet mission requirements. We're getting results, but to succeed, the job referrals must become accessions."



# Hundreds of 931st ARG members and their families turn out for the annual Christmas party to Celebrate

By Senior Airman  
Jason Whited  
*Kanza Spirit Editor*

McConnell's Emerald Ballroom felt more like a living room as 931st airmen and their families gathered to celebrate the holidays at the annual Christmas party Dec. 5.

Parents sat around tables, talking together and eating as kids either played games together or lined up to tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas.

The party lasted most of the afternoon as reservists, most of whom only see each other on UTA weekends, took advantage of their last chance to wish friends happy holidays.

However, while most attendees relaxed and enjoyed the food, a few dedicated airmen kept the party going.

Master Sgt. Donna Lorenz, NCOIC of logistics plans, called out prize winners in the raffle,

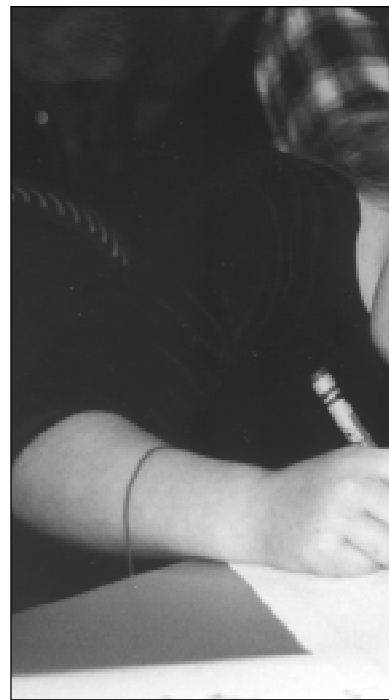
and Chief Master Sgt. Billy Meade, 931st ARG command chief master sergeant, pulled duty as Santa Claus for all the kids.

His assistant, Staff Sgt. Ernest Goethe (a member of the 931st Aircraft Generation Squadron), helped Santa ensure each child had a turn reading off their wish lists -- and he turned a few heads with his fancy elf costume.

Col. Daniel Opp, 931st Commander, got a standing ovation when he announced his Christmas gift to the unit -- an early release from duty that day.

Most people interviewed said they were having a great time and were enjoying the family atmosphere.

There's no word yet on whether Meade and Goethe will repeat their performances for next year's party, but attendees agreed that the dynamic duo had "set the standard" for years to come.



McConnell kids had a chance to part



Unit members and their families 'cho friends.



**Note:** 931st Air Refueling Group officials would like to thank everyone involved in the planning and setup of the Christmas party.



bers

or

to enjoy food, friends and to...

# the season



Senior Airman Jason Whited  
participate in holiday activities designed just for them.



Senior Airman Jason Whited  
Each child had a chance to let Santa know  
just what he wanted for Christmas.



Staff Sgt. David Brumley  
'mowed down' while catching up with



Staff Sgt. David Brumley  
Hey, even elves have  
to eat!



# Will power



## 'Tis the season for New Year's resolutions -- can you keep yours?

By Senior Airman  
Jason Whited  
*Kanza Spirit Editor*

For who knows how long, the change in year has meant a change (at least for a few weeks) in behavior for Americans.

Each New Year's Day, untold millions of us roll out of bed at the "crack of noon," heads and eyes bleary from the night before, and on our way to the coffee pot mumble "God, I've gotta STOP doing this to myself."

As we stumble through the first day of each new year, it usually dawns on us that we can't keep this sort of thing up. Between handfuls of aspirin and mouthfuls of coffee, we decide we've gotta make a change.

### Change -- what is it good for?

Maybe it's because we feel guilty for all the "soft living" we've done the previous 12 months. Maybe it's because our waist sizes have increased by three inches since we decided to eat our way through the holidays.

Whatever the reason, most Americans collectively choose Jan. 1 as THE day they're gonna turn their lives around.

Whether it's losing weight, cutting down on alcohol or something as simple as watching less television, we as a nation promise ourselves (and anyone else who will listen) that we're turning over a new leaf. That we're going to start walking

down the straight and narrow path to good health and "clean living." That after years of trying (and failing) to eliminate bad habits, we're "really gonna do it this time."

### The impossible dream?

Are we actually able to change all those nasty little habits we've spent years getting just right? Are we able to clean up our act by simply deciding to do so?

Well, yes say experts, but it takes some work.

According to a University of Washington study on New Year's resolutions and our ability (or willingness) to stick to them, only 40 percent of those who made resolutions stuck with their top resolutions on their first try. Most people surveyed needed more than just one attempt -- some needed at least six tries to get it right.

### A firm commitment

This comes as no surprise to Elizabeth Miller, co-director of the UW study. According to Miller, resolutions should not be made lightly, but should be undertaken with a commitment to change.

"The keys to making a successful resolution are a person's confidence that he or she can make the behavior change and the commitment to making that change," said Miller. "Resolutions are a process, not a one-time effort that offers people a chance to create new habits."

### 931st airmen 'weigh in' with their resolutions

To find out just what, if anything, 931st troops were planning on doing differently in 2000, we went around the unit asking folks if they had any New Year's resolutions.

Some of their answers might inspire you. Some of their answers might make you laugh. However they affect

you, we offer them up here for your enjoyment.

To keep these guys honest, the Spirit will check back with these brave souls in six months to see if they stuck to their resolutions.

Watch for the full report on how they did in the July edition of the Kanza Spirit.

**Staff Sgt. Roxanne Kinkaid, 931st Air Refueling Group Stan/Eval** -- "To get a strong man who can handle me"

**Master Sgt. Valerie Adkins, 931st Air Refueling Group Command Support Staff** -- "To eat less and go TDY a whole lot more"

**Tech. Sgt. Lauren Harper, 931st Operations Support Flight** -- "In the new year, I resolve to get more dates"

**Maj. Steve Kett, 931st chief of intelligence** -- "I resolve that absolutely no more Kett aliens (babies) will be conceived"

Alan Marlatt, director of the University of Washington Addictive Behaviors Research Center who assisted Miller with the study, agreed and offered up some pointers to help those of us with relatively little will power keep our New Year's resolutions.

Marlatt suggested that if people do decide to change their behavior, they can avoid falling into the same old cycle of making and breaking resolutions by putting a little forethought into the process.

People shouldn't think about making resolutions until the last minute, said Marlatt.

He added that simply reacting on New Year's Eve and making resolutions based on what's bothering you or is on your mind at that time is just "setting yourself up for failure."

Changing your "wicked ways" is not just as simple as just

changing your mind, agreed Miller and Marlatt.

Miller urged people to ensure they follow-up on their initial behavior changes.

Marlatt added that a good way to follow up is to keep track of your progress throughout the year.

The more monitoring you do and feedback you get, he said, the better you'll do.

### Take it easy

Finally, said Marlatt, don't be too rough on yourself.

"Take credit for success when you achieve a resolution, but it is a mistake to blame yourself if you fail. Instead, look at the barriers that were in your way," said Marlatt. "See how you can do better the next time and figure out a better plan to succeed. You do get to try again and can make behavior changes throughout the year, not only at New Year's."



# Around the Air Force



## Raptor flies 100th mission

The F-22 Raptor 4001, the first of the Air Force's next-generation of air superiority fighter jets, recently flew its 100th mission at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif.

The F-22 is undergoing the most extensive and sophisticated testing of any combat aircraft ever developed, giving the Air Force and its industry partners adequate time to properly design, build and test the Raptor before putting it into production.

Read more about America's new fighter at [www.af.mil/lib/airpower/index.html](http://www.af.mil/lib/airpower/index.html).

## MilMod to replace current personnel system

State-of-the-art technology will be used by military personnel flights throughout the Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve to process total force personnel information starting December 2000.

The Air Force Military Personnel Data System Modernization program, or MilMod, will replace current 1970s technology with a relational database.

The new system offers several improvements over today's system including a graphical user interface, which will give personnel technicians

online real-time access to personnel information.

Interested people can visit the MilMod home page at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/modern](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/modern) or submit questions and comments to customer preparation at [dpsimc@afpc.randolph.af.mil](mailto:dpsimc@afpc.randolph.af.mil).

## IG teams to assess 'don't ask, don't tell' climate

The DOD Inspector General will assess the atmosphere surrounding the military's homosexual service policy, Defense Secretary William Cohen announced Dec. 13.

IG teams will visit representative military installations of all services to determine the extent that harassment of perceived homosexual service members occurs.

The military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy grew out of a 1993 DOD proposal and was enshrined in law in 1994.

The policy allows homosexuals to stay in the services so long as they do not reveal their sexual orientation. Conversely, supervisors are not to ask subordinates about their sexual orientation.

The IG will "assess the human relations environment in the military services with respect to the policy," said Pentagon spokesman Ken Bacon during a press conference.

"The extent to which disparaging speech or expression with respect to sexual orientation occurs or is tolerated by individuals in the chain of command will also be assessed."

## Commissary website gets more customer-focused

A new and improved Defense Commissary Agency web site ([www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com)) helps commissary shoppers find out more about what their store offers in sales and services.

Some of the new features include interactive maps, driving instructions, food safety information and recipes.

Those seeking employment can check out the "Inside DeCA" section and look for the job announcement link.

There are also sections detailing procedures for reporting Fraud, Waste and Abuse and filing Freedom of Information Act requests.



## Reserve A-10 units complete AEF 1 tour

This year's deployment to Al Jaber Air Base, Kuwait, smacked of déjà vu for some pilots and support people from two Air Force Reserve Command A-10 fighter wings.

Members of the 926th FW, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, La., and the 442nd FW, Whiteman AFB, Mo., provided close air support and combat search and rescue cover over southern Iraq in October and November. They performed the same Operation Southern Watch mission during the summer of 1998 with active-duty pilots and

support people from the 23rd Fighter Group, Pope AFB, N.C.

This time during Aerospace Expeditionary Force 1 they formed an A-10 "rainbow" unit with members of the 355th FS from Eielson AFB, Alaska, who arrived in country in September. Pilots from the 926th FW's 706th Fighter Squadron flew their A-10s to Kuwait in early October, and members of the 442nd FW's 303rd FS piloted the planes home in early December.

Relations between the active-duty people and reservists were a little tentative at first.

"They (active-duty people) weren't sure what we could do," said Tech. Sgt. Dale Taylor, an A-10 crew chief from the 303rd FS. "They started out asking me some basic questions about the jet to see what I knew, then a little more detailed and when they finally realized I had 15 years working on the same aircraft, they started coming to me for help."

## Airman's Manual now available

An Airman's Manual has been released by the Air Force to bases across the service to educate the force on fundamental skills needed for deployed environments.

The 177-page manual covers areas such as deployment procedures, host-nation sensitivities, personal hygiene and anti-terrorism procedures. Color photos and graphics help illustrate the manual's step-by-step guidance.

Copies of the manual are available through unit orderly rooms.



# Spirit Shorts

## Upcoming UTAs

February -- 5, 6  
March -- 4, 5  
April -- 8, 9  
May -- 6, 7  
June -- 10, 11  
July -- 15, 16  
August -- 5, 6  
September -- 9, 10

## Movin' on up

The following 931st Air Refueling Group members recently completed Professional Military Education or formal technical schools. Congratulations go to: **Master Sgt. Alex Clemena**, 931st Aircraft Generation Squadron; **Tech. Sgt. Chuck Smith**, 931st Mission Support Flight; **Senior Airman Jodi McGill**, 931st AGS; **Master Sgt. Jack Norris**, 931st AGS; and **Senior Airman Lewis McSparen**, 931st Civil Engineering Squadron

## Transitions

Congrats go to the unit's most recent retrainees: **Staff Sgt. Doug Crow** is leaving his job as a 931st AGS guidance and control specialist to fill the chaplain's assistance position; **Master Sgt. Lea Shivley** is leaving her training manager post with the 931st CES and heading to the 18th Air Refueling Squadron as an aeromed tech.

## Newcomers

Welcome to the newest members of the 931st ARG: **Senior Airman Alicia Bowens**, 931st Operations Support Flight; **Airman First Class Richard Caron**, 931st AGS; **Tech. Sgt. Rickey Haggitt**, 931st AGS; **Staff Sgt. Tracee Hartzfel**, 18th Air Refueling Squadron; **Tech. Sgt. Randy Unger**, 931st CES; **Senior Airman Laurie Lassley**,

18th ARS; and **Senior Airman Warren Roberts**, 931st CES.

## Don't lose that number!

McConnell telephone numbers now begin with 759 (instead of 652).

All off-base callers must use the new prefix to reach McConnell offices.

On-base callers still only have to dial the four-digit extension of the office they're trying to reach. McConnell's DSN prefix will remain 743.

## Big brains

Kudos go out to two 931st ARG members who recently earned their Community College of the Air Force associate's degrees. **Staff Sgt. Hugo Hurtado**, 931st ARG Plans Office, earned his in information management, and **Tech. Sgt. Mark Allen**, 931st AGS, earned his in aircraft system maintenance technology. Congratulations!

## Need to outprocess?

If you or someone you know needs to outprocess for a TDY, reassignment or retirement, remember the Military Pay Office is open only on UTA Saturdays from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thinking ahead can ensure you don't have to come back to base during the week to finish all that boring outprocessing stuff! You can get it done during the UTA!

For more info, contact Tech. Sgt. Anick Wallace at Ext. 3665.

## Fill out that Form No. 93!!!

DD Form No. 93 provides info on your primary next of kin,



## Globe trotters

Here's a quick rundown of where 931st airmen are pulling temporary duty around the world.

Please keep our deployed troops in your thoughts and prayers that they might return home safely.

### Location

Ramstein Air Base, Germany  
Istres, France  
Aviano Air Base, Italy

### Projected length of TDY

4 1/2 months  
2 months  
2 weeks

**Note:** This information was current at press time

secondary next of kin and anyone else who should be notified in case of your death, injury or in an emergency.

This form also serves as the official document for designating beneficiaries for death gratuity pay and unpaid pay and allowances.

Cheery stuff, huh?

Members should take this reminder very seriously and fill their forms out as soon as possible to ensure their families receive all they're entitled to.

## NCO Leadership Development Class

Here are the latest dates for the Air Force Reserve Command NCOLD:

Tinker Air force Base, Okla.

Class A (must attend both dates) -- Feb. 7-11 and Feb. 28-Mar. 3

Class B (must attend both dates) -- June 5-9 and July 10-14

Ft. Worth Joint Reserve Base

Class B -- Mar. 11-19  
Class C -- Apr. 8-16

Class D -- Sept. 16-24

Interested staff and tech sergeants should contact their unit training manager or Group Training at Ext. 5423.

## MPF closure

The Military Personnel Flight is closed each UTA Sunday from 7:30 to 10 a.m. for in-house training.

## NCO Academy info

NCOA dates for fiscal 2000 are here!

Contact your unit training manager or group Training (Ext. 5423) for details.

## ALS is calling you

The 931st ARG has received its Airman Leadership School quotas for fiscal 2000.

Senior airmen with four years' time in service are eligible to attend.

Class dates are scheduled for May 30 to June 30 and July 25 to Aug. 25.

Call Group Training at Ext. 5423 for more information.



# Spirit Shorts

## Jobs available

The 931st ARG is looking for folks to fill the AFSCs listed below.

If you're interested, contact Master Sgt. Corinna Seitz at Ext. 3587.

3E4X2 -- Liquid Fuels  
 3E4X1 -- Utility  
 3E0X2 -- Electrical Power  
 3E3X1 -- Structures  
 3S2X1 -- Unit Training Manager  
 1S0X1 -- Safety  
 3S1X1 -- Social Actions NCO  
 52R3 -- Chaplain  
 5R0X1 -- Chaplain Assistant  
 48G3 -- Flight Surgeon (2)  
 11T3B -- Pilot (2)  
 4F0X1 -- Aeromed Tech (2)  
 8C000 -- Family Readiness  
 1N0X1 -- Intel  
 2A6X5 -- Aircraft Pneudralics

## Guard that classified info!

Everyone who's been granted access to classified information is responsible for protecting it.

Classified information must be protected at all times either by storing it in an approved device or having it under the observation and control of an authorized person.

## Kanza Spirit is changing

You may have noticed some changes in the paper since the October issue -- more changes are on the way!

A full redesign is still underway and will appear soon.

As part of our new look and new approach to covering news in the 931st ARG, we're on the lookout for both story ideas and suggestions on what you'd like to see in the paper.

No idea is too crazy -- all

suggestions will be considered.

To suggest a story or to let us know what you'd like to see in the paper, contact Jason Whited, Kanza Spirit Editor, at Ext. 3616 or via e-mail at Jason.Whited@mccconnell.af.mil.

We're also on the lookout for talented writers and photographers -- if you have a "nose for news" or a real eye for photography, let Jason know.

Who knows? Your work could end up on the front page!

## Attention, AGS

AGS troops will have a new home Jan. 14 -- Building No. 1169.

Space has been reserved for the 931st AGS on the second floor of that building above the south support.

Contact Tech. Sgt. Bob Lorenz at Ext. 3030 for more information.

## Amn/NCO of the Quarter board

The board for Airman/NCO of the Quarter is scheduled for Jan. 8 at 2 p.m. in the Group Conference Room.

## Attention, CCAF students

Those Community College of the Air Force students who want to graduate with the May 2000 class must have all required documentation to CCAF by Feb. 25.

Stop by the Group Training Office for details.

## Problems with your employer?

You and your employer both have rights and obligations under federal law. Contact your unit employer support rep for help or call (800) 336-4590.

# SPRIT SPOTLIGHT

## 2nd Lt. Glenda Norris

### 931st Intel

This month's Spotlight selectee comes to us from the 931st Intel Office. This Huntsville, Texas native has been in the military for 14 years and is well known for her ability to put up with Maj. Steve Kett, 931st Chief of Intelligence.

**Civilian job:** Mom!

**What I'm reading now:** Introduction to Intelligence (so I don't have to go to school in residence), but if I had my choice, I'd be reading a Tom Clancy novel!

**What I'm listening to now:** Country and Western

**Favorite way to relax:** Watching a good movie

**Easiest way to annoy me:** Act like you know what you're doing when you don't have a clue.

**Most influential person in my life:** The most influential people in my life are my Aunt Betty (for encouraging me to



get through college) and my husband Jim.

**If I won \$1 million, I would:** Pay off debt, buy a bigger house and invest the remainder.

## Refer a friend!

There are positions available with the 931st Air Refueling Group.

Help your unit recruit by providing the name of a friend or have them contact Master Sgt. David McCormick at 759-4350.

Other area recruiters include:

Tinker AFB, Okla.  
 Master Sgt. Victor Bradford  
 (405) 739-2980  
 Tech Sgt. Rhonda Nolan  
 (405) 734-5331



Lawton, Okla.  
 Tech. Sgt. Nathan Bickle  
 (405) 357-2784

Midwest City, Okla.  
 Master Sgt. Linda Smith  
 (405) 733-9403

Sheppard AFB, Texas  
 Master Sgt. Larry Giles  
 (817) 676-3382



# Wichita Weekend

## Americana From Hearth and Home

Through Jan. 13, Wichita Art Museum, 619 Stackman Dr. A selection of 19th-century American quilts, coverlets and kitchen utensils from the WAM collection. 268-4921; [www.feist.com/~wam](http://www.feist.com/~wam)

## The Millennium Follies

Through Jan. 30, Crown Uptown Professional Theatre, 3107 E. Douglas, 681-1566.

Ring in the new millennium with a musical comedy revue featuring music, dance and comedy from 1900-1999. Each performance \$19.95-\$26.95.

## Kansas Winter Nationals Tractor Pull

Jan. 8, Kansas Coliseum, 1229 E. 85th. St. N. 755-1243. Free

## WAM Gallery Talks

Jan. 9, Wichita Art Museum, 619 Stackman Dr.

Once a month you'll see the galleries from a whole new

perspective as a WAM docent provides special insight into art. Free. 268-4921

## 'What Wichita Collects & What Wichita Can Collect'

This unique exhibition combines selections from private collections in Wichita and a sale of artwork that can be collected.

Dealers from New York City and Santa Fe, N. M., as well as area artists and consigners have assembled a mix of artwork that would be wonderful additions to private and corporate collections.

## Mid-America All-Indian Center

The Mid-America All-Indian Center is located at the confluence of the Big and Little Arkansas Rivers on land where the Wichita tribe camped more than 100 years ago.

Take Kellogg (U.S. 54/400) to Seneca. Go north on Seneca. The Center stands on the east side of Seneca between McLean and Central.

## Omnisphere & Science Center

The Omnisphere started with a planetarium and has evolved over the years to include hands-on science exhibits and live science demonstrations.

This is a facility that encompasses a mix of education and entertainment for the whole family.

220 S. Main, 337-9174

## Sedgwick County Zoo

Located at 5555 Zoo Boulevard, 942-2213.

Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Displaying over 2,000 animals of 436 species, it is the number one tourist attraction in Kansas. Admission is \$7 for adults, 12 and older; \$6 for seniors, 62 and older; \$4 for children 5 to 11 years old; and free for children 4 and younger.

## 'Kids on Broadway!'

Stage One family special, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Jan. 9, 3755 E. Douglas. Tickets \$10. Includes an all-you-can-eat pancakes and benefit auction. Information, 262-5330.

## Flick picks

**Note:** A listing of on-base movies was unavailable at press time, so here's a list of a couple of movies scheduled to open in Wichita during the January UTA:



### *The Hurricane* (R)

Starring Denzel Washington and Deborah Unger. In June 1966, Rubin "Hurricane" Carter was a strong contender for the middleweight boxing title. His dreams of glory were soon shattered after he was arrested for a triple murder he didn't commit.



### *The Third Miracle* (R)

Starring Ed Harris and Anne Heche. A disillusioned Catholic priest is summoned to investigate claims that a marble statue is crying tears of blood. As he investigates the claims and the woman believed responsible for bringing on the miracle, he finds himself attracted to her daughter.

### Area theaters

Cinemas East: 684-2805  
Towne East 4: 685-1121  
Towne East 2: 681-2717  
Northrock 14: 636-5432  
Northrock 6: 636-5432  
Palace: 721-7949  
Premiere Palace: 691-9700  
Warren Theater: 721-9545

## A word from the IG

### How can you contact the Inspector General?

Have you ever wanted to contact the IG but were not sure about the best way to make it happen? The best way to make the initial contact is to call the IG office at Ext. 3684 or 5853. The IG telephone numbers, as well as the e-mail address, are also in the group directory. You can

also call the 931st Air Refueling Group headquarters section at 5443 and ask for an IG. Once contact is made, we will schedule a meeting during which we will discuss your problem face-to-face and decide the proper course of action. If for any reason you do not want to come to the IG office, several other options are available. You can send an e-mail and ask for the IG to contact you. You may also complete an AF Form No.

102 and forward it to the IG office. You may also describe the issue in a letter to the IG. You may also remain anonymous, however it makes it difficult for the IG to obtain additional information from you that may be important to an investigation. Any way you can initiate the contact will get the process started.

Once contact is made, we'll work together to help you resolve the issue.